

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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| | | 50X1-HUM |
| COUNTRY | USSR | REPORT |
| SUBJECT | 1. Observation of Soviet Naval and Merchant Vessels in Arctic Waters 2. Observations at Arkhangelsk and Kem | DATE DISTR. 31 March 1960 NO. PAGES 2 |
| | REFERENCES | 50X1-HUM |
| DATE OF INFO. | | |
| PLACE & DATE ACQ. | | |

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

The following eight reports of naval and merchant vessel sightings, and port controls and observations at Arkhangelsk and Kem

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- | Att. No. | Subject | |
|----------|--|----------------------|
| 1 | report on naval vessel sightings in northern waters including one minelayer, the SEVERNAYA DVINA; two fishing boats and six trawlers. | 50X1-HUM |
| 2 | report, of a sighting of a patrol boat at N 67-45, E 41-11 | 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM |
| 3 | report, of a voyage from Bremen to Arkhangelsk. Included is a brief description of the port controls at Arkhangelsk. | |
| 4 | report on observations in Kem including lack of naval vessel sightings whatsoever; six unidentified jet aircraft; jamming of radio broadcasts; living conditions in Kem. | 50X1-HUM |

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| STATE | X | ARMY | #X | NAVY | #X | AIR | #X | NSA | X | FBI | | NIC | X | |
| (Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| <u>Att. No.</u> | <u>Subject</u> | |
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| 5 | [redacted] report on naval vessel sightings in and near Arkhangelsk [redacted] including: four MTBs with radar reflectors; six probable KRONSTADT-class submarine chasers [redacted] one ARTILLERIST-class submarine chaser [redacted] one P-6-class MTB. Attached are rough sketches of each class of ship sighted. | 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM |
| 6 | [redacted] report on naval vessel sightings in Kola Bay [redacted] including: one CHAPAYEV-class cruiser [redacted] two KOTLIN-class destroyers, [redacted] one submarine, [redacted] of about 500 tons displacement. | 50X1-HUM |
| 7 | [redacted] report of naval vessel sightings in Arkhangelsk [redacted] including: ten transport ships each carrying on deck ten large "launch-type" boats with roofed deckhouses. | 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM |
| 8 | [redacted] report of fishing boat sightings and observations in the Barents Sea [redacted] including: Soviet trawlers; Soviet fishing research vessel TUNETS; East German trawler ERFURT. Also included are observations that Soviet and East German trawlers frequently made fishing runs together, and that the trawler ERFURT seemed to be serving, at least during the one observation, as a fuel supply ship for Soviet trawlers. | |

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COUNTRY: Soviet Union

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SUBJECT: Information About Soviet Vessels

DATE OF INFO.

DATE ACQUIRED

DATE OF REPORT: 4 December 1959

attachment #1

The following Soviet vessels were observed in Northern waters and in the Arctic Sea

Position

Vessel

N 69 37' - E 15 57"

Mine-layer, Deck cargo, torpedoes. Two guns estimated to be 88 mm.

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Northwest of Andenes

Cargo ship SEVERNAYA DVINA, course, east. Size, about 3000 tons. Forward and aft of bridge was a rectangular, circa two meter high object covered with tarpaulin.

Northwest of North Cape

Herring-fisher, course west.

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Northwest of North Cape

Herring-boat course west.

Northwest of North Cape

Factory trawler course west.

Cape Linne

Two trawlers underway into the Isfjord

Calypso Bay

Mother-ship and trawlers at anchor.

N 72 40"- E 21 30"

Trawler, course, east.

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DATE 3 September 1959

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USSR

Military-Maritime

Attachment # 2

SUBJECT

Soviet Naval Craft Observed on Route to Archangelsk

50X1-HUM

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

1. Soviet Patrol Craft was observed; its position: 67.45 N/

41.11 E

For two hours, the Soviet patrol vessel accompanied the ship on a parallel course and at a distance of about 500 meters.

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2. Description of Patrol Craft.

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Identification:

Shape: One short, wide funnel. Length of hull: 60/65 meters. One pole mast aft of the bridge. Slanting stem.

Armament: One gun in cupola on foredeck and one gun on poop deck. To all appearances, the gun on the poop deck was of a lighter caliber. On the bridge two anti-aircraft machine guns.

Radar: 3-centimeter radar (mesh) in the mast; 3-centimeter radar (closed) in the same mast.

Particulars: 1 search light in the mast.

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*Attachment 4***SECRET**

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U.S.S.R.NAVAL/ECONOMICConditions in the Port of Kem

3. In the early hours of the morning [redacted] six jet
engined 'planes were observed flying over the port, but they were too high and
visibility was too bad [redacted] Subsequently,
during the night hours the noise of aircraft, usually jet engined, could be heard.

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4. Whenever a [redacted] station broadcast a news bulletin the transmission was
jammed and it was impossible to understand the text.

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5. The people in Kem were very shabbily dressed and gave the impression of
being completely apathetic to recent Russian scientific achievements. Standards of
living and general housing conditions were very low.

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U.S.S.R.

NAVAL

WARSHIPS NORTHERN AREA

1. The following are particulars of four similar warships seen in line ahead

(see sketch No.1), *MITRE*

50X1-HUM

2 miles inshore steering approximately 030° , at 25 knots (from radar plot).

$66^{\circ} 40' N$, $41^{\circ} 09' E$. steering 210° at 9 knots.

Good visibility.

Unrestricted.

No funnels.

Estimated 80/90 feet.

A tripod type structure straddling the bridge.

M.T.B. type hull.

Dome shaped radar on top of structure and large "bed rest" type aerial on fore side of structure.

Hulls painted dark grey.

NOTE: The decks were bare except for a small hatch or skylight aft.

The radar echo from these vessels was exceptionally strong at ten miles.

2. The following are the particulars of six similar vessels seen in ARCHANGEL

(see sketch No.2).

50X1-HUM

Alongside at SOLOMBALA.

Proceeding to anchorage off SOLOMBALA.

Good visibility.

In a U.S.S.R. port.

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page 2.

[REDACTED] One squat funnel.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Estimated 160 feet.

[REDACTED] One lattice mast rising from bridge.

[REDACTED] Flush deck.

50X1-HUM

[REDACTED] Two single guns in shields in line forward. One twin gun aft (canvas covered).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] "Ball gun" type radar on bracket on foremast.

[REDACTED] Vessels were being painted dark grey with red boot topping and then white line dividing.

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3. The following are the particulars of a warship seen at ARCHANGEL [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (see sketch No.3).

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[REDACTED] Alongside at SOLOMBALA.

[REDACTED] Proceeding to anchorage off SOLOMBALA.

[REDACTED] Good visibility.

[REDACTED] In a U.S.S.R. port.

[REDACTED] One squat funnel.

[REDACTED] BPH 45 on side below forward gun.

[REDACTED] Estimated 120 - 130 feet.

[REDACTED] One polemast foreside of bridge.

[REDACTED] Flush deck.

[REDACTED] One gun on forecastle covered in canvas.

[REDACTED] Radar above bridge,

[REDACTED]

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4. The following are the particulars of a warship seen in ARCHANGEL [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (see sketch No.4).

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[REDACTED] Proceeding down river at ARCHANGEL.

[REDACTED] Alongside No. 26 Mill.

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page 3.

50X1-HUM

Good visibility.

In a U.S.S.R. port.

No funnels.

No number.

Estimated 90 feet.

Lattice structure.

Flush deck, M.T.B. type with flared bow.

One gun forward, one gun aft (canvas covered).

Torpedo tube each side of bridge angled slightly on each bow.

Dome type radar on top of lattice structure at after end of bridge.

Colour not reported.

NOTE: Vessel was either new or just recently repainted.

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1
LOOKED LIKE THEIR USUAL
RADAR DOME

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50X1-HUM

2
SHIP A.E. → H → RADAR.

50X1-HUM

3
SHIP A.E.
D/F →

50X1-HUM

4
RADAR.

50X1-HUM

x Canvas Covers.

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

50X1-HUM

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Vessels in the Kola Bay

DATE OF REPORT 7 December 1959

NO. PAGES

REFERENCES

DATE OF
INFO.
PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

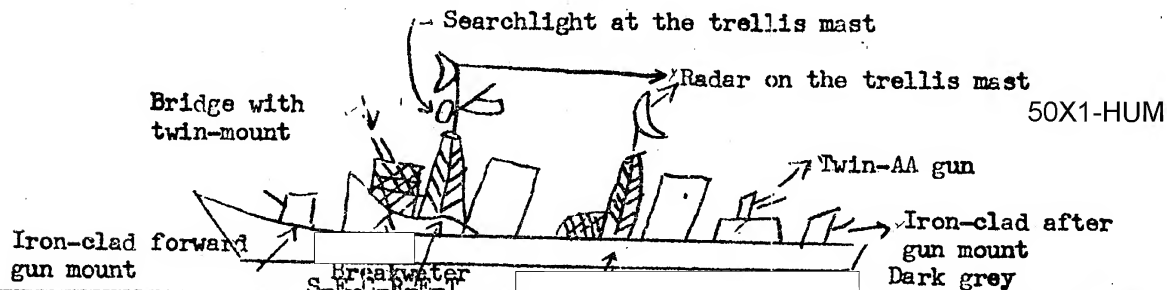
[redacted] a unit of Soviet naval vessels was observed abreast of TERIBERSKI HEAD. The unit consisted of cruiser [redacted] and destroyers [redacted]. It first ran on southwestern course, then changed to approximately 310° and entered Kola Bay at about 2000. 50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM

Description of the naval vessels:

1. Cruiser [redacted] is of an older type with two circular-shaped triple gun turrets on the forecastle and afterbody; two equally high stacks, mounted far apart; thin, supported mast at the forward edge of the second stack. 50X1-HUM
2. The destroyers are of a modern type with continuous main deck with a shovel-nosed forward part; a conspicuously high breakwater beginning somewhat forward of the bridge extends as far as after edge of the trellis mast.

An iron-clad gun turret on the forecastle and/or afterbody; twin-AA mounts on the bridge and on the quarterdeck; a trellis mast between bridge and the first stack and an equally high trellis mast somewhat drawn forward of the second stack. Radar screens are fitted on the two masts; in addition, the forward mast has a searchlight and a signal yard.

The vessel is painted dark grey all over.



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[redacted] Soviet submarine [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] was observed near the coast off BOL. OLENI Islands, taking course 50X1-HUM
toward the entrance of the Bay of Kola. The size of the submarine was
estimated at 500 tons.

Weather conditions:

wind from west-northwest, breeze to strong breeze;
moderate sea, long northwestern swell;
visibility: 10 to 15 nautical miles.

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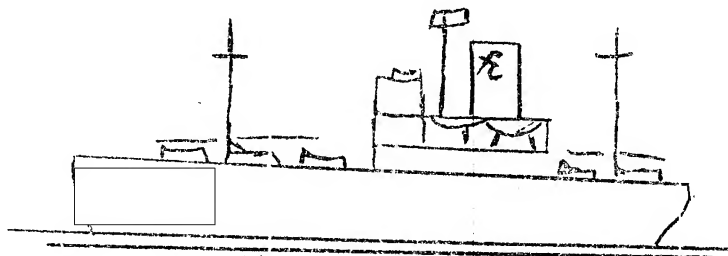
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|-------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| COUNTRY | USSR | REPORT | |
| SUBJECT | Soviet Special Ships in Arkhangelsk | DATE OF REPORT | 10 February 1960 50X1-HUM |
| | | NO. PAGES | 2 |
| | | REFERENCES | |
| DATE OF INFO. | | | 50X1-HUM |
| PLACE & DATE ACQ. | | | 50X1-HUM |

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large transporters with deck load were seen almost daily and sometimes even twice a day in Arkhangelsk main fairwater (Beryozovy Canal), coming from the open sea. A total of 10 transporters was observed. The ships had an average 8,000 dwt and were either of identical or similar type.

Description:



very broad

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Outboard coat of paint: very dark gray, almost black, even coat of paint.

Stack: even grayish-black paint and hammer and sickle emblem.

High deck with midship cabin and bridge; bridge had nothing unusual; radar mast aft of the bridge; normal radar set for merchant vessels.

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Deck cargo: each ship carried 10 large boats of the launch type with roofed deckhouse and motor drive. Groups of three or four men in blue naval uniform were with each boat. They were obviously members of the crew standing guard.

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Deck: six launches were on the foredeck and four on the quarter deck. It could not be observed whether the ships remained in Arkhangelsk or whether they put to sea again.

Comment. [redacted] D/F TZIMLYANSKGES of 5,494 GRT with 9 or 10 small landing craft as deck cargo passed the Sound en route toward north. There is the possibility that the launch-type boats with roofed deckhouse and motor drive were shipped to Arkhangelsk to be prepared and fitted out for landing purposes. This assumption is supported by the observation of three or four crew members with each boat. It is moreover safe to conclude that up North, within a radius of 250 to 350 seamiles a shipyard is located where such boats are being built, since transports of 10 to 20 boats were seen daily. The statement that the boats had motor drive is believed to have been only an assumption.

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According to the description of the transporters, the report may refer to motor ships of the STANISLAVSKY or IVAN BABUSHKIN Class [redacted]

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[redacted] Two of these ships were seen in Arkhangelsk at the time under review, while other ships of these classes were seen there in the summer or have not been observed for quite some time.

Type STANISLAVSKY, 3,385 GRT, 1,577 NRT, 5,800 dwt:

length: 118.5 meters
breadth: 16 meters
draft: 6.6 meters
speed: 12 knots
two radar sets
two mast antennas
radio direction finder
echo sounder
gyro-compass
ten derricks, each of 7.5 tons
1 heavy derrick of 15 tons
1 heavy derrick of 30 tons
4 hatches

Type IVAN BABUSHKIN, 1,712 GRT, 1,100 NRT, 3,100 dwt

length: 99.5 meters
breadth: 14 meters
draft: 5.6 meters
speed: 12 knots
radar set
radio direction finder
echo sounder
10 derricks of 7.5 tons each
1 heavy derrick of 15 tons
1 heavy derrick of 30 tons
4 hatches.

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|-------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| COUNTRY | USSR | REPORT | [REDACTED] | 50X1-HUM |
| SUBJECT | Observations Made in the Barents Sea | DATE OF REPORT | 26 October 1959 | |
| | | NO. PAGES | 2 | |
| | | REFERENCES | [REDACTED] | |
| DATE OF INFO. | [REDACTED] | | | 50X1-HUM |
| PLACE & DATE ACQ. | [REDACTED] | | | 50X1-HUM |

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

1. The homeport of all Soviet trawlers, fishing in the Barents Sea and in the area north of Spitzbergen, was Murmansk. The vessels had a conspicuously long forecastle and a tripod mast. The strength of the forecastle with its installations may have been indicative of possible gun emplacements. 50X1-HUM
Although the Soviet vessels were of the same size as the [REDACTED] trawlers, they had more accommodation space and partly also larger hatch covers. 50X1-HUM
2. Fifteen Soviet trawlers were observed off the west coast of Spitzbergen. They were fishing there for some days and then went northward.
3. East German trawler ERFURT was observed with two other Soviet trawlers near the Isle of Baeren. The trawler ERFURT and one of the Soviet trawlers were connected by a hose; after the hose had been cut off, the three trawlers ran in northward direction.
4. It was frequently observed that Soviet and East German trawlers were out on joint fishing runs. One unit usually consisted of one East German and two or three Soviet trawlers.
5. Barentsburg (Spitzbergen) was the main base of the Soviet fishery. Vessels of all sizes could enter the base; it had sufficient bunker space for coal and oil.
6. Fishery research vessel TUNETS was also observed in the above-mentioned sea areas. The TUNETS is a big Soviet trawler and has a crew of 41 men and scientists aboard. The scientific staff consists of 6 assistants and a female engineer as specialist for fishing gear. At least two officers of the crew are highly qualified radio operators.

[REDACTED] Comment. The hose connection between East German steamtrawler ERFURT and one of the Soviet trawlers is nothing unusual. The ERFURT is presumably a motor tanker (a trawler-shaped tanker), which serves as supply S-E-C-R-E-T 50X1-HUM

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vessel for the other trawlers enabling them to stay out for a prolonged period. It is conspicuous however that East German trawlers and Soviet trawlers and supply vessels are cooperating with one another.

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